

CLAIMS

1. A system for delivery of product units from a vending machine to a customer, comprising:

a control central; and

a closed vending machine comprising a control unit being arranged to control the conditions for delivery of the product units from the vending machine, and also to register information about the product content in the vending machine, characterized in that the control central is arranged to continuously collect information about product content from the control unit and is set up to control the conditions of delivery in the vending machine for each specific customer, based on, for example, customer information, time, location, where the conditions are sent to the control unit.

2. A system according to claim 1, characterized in that the control central is arranged to continuously register all products that are delivered to each individual customer, where each product that the customer buys is debited automatically, immediately after the purchase.

3. A system according to claim 1, characterized in that the control unit is programmed via the control central to regulate which products that can be delivered from the vending machine, and which products that are blocked for delivery.

4. A system according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the control central comprises arrangements to rebate and/or favor individual guests for some or all products in the mini bar.

5. A system according to claim 1, characterized in that the vending machine is arranged to be operated by a feed-unit, such as a keyboard, remote control unit or other wireless unit.

6. A system according to claim 1, characterized in that a TV set is connected to the control central, and the vending machine is arranged to be operated via the remote control of the

TV set.

7. A system according to claim 1, characterized in that access to the vending machine is conditioned by the use of a correct room key, where the access to the room gives a corresponding access to the vending machine against a simultaneous invoicing of all withdrawals.

8. A system according to claim 5, characterized in that the vending machine comprises a card reader, where a magnetic card or other storing body is used in combination with a code that can be keyed into the feed unit to activate the vending machine.

9. A system according to claim 1, characterized in that said conditions that are controlled comprise delivery of products which are subjected to restrictions according to the Law, such as age limits and/or time related restrictions.

10. A system according to claim 9, characterized in that the system comprises a display shaped analogously to a TV screen to show selection possibilities and also to present information such as advertisements and the like.

11. A system according to claim 1, wherein the vending machine is located in a hotel room, and that the control central is operated from the hotel reception by an operator.

12. A system for delivery of product units from a lobby vending machine to a plurality of customers, comprising:

a control central; and

a closed vending machine, placed in a common area, comprising a control unit being arranged to control the conditions for delivery of the product units from the vending machine, and also to register information about the product content in the vending machine, wherein conditions in relation to which single products that can be delivered from the vending machine to each individual customer, and which that are prevented from being delivered are controlled from a control central.

13. System according to claim 12, wherein the vendor machine is located in a hotel's facilities, such as well-being departments, spa and massage parlors, swimming pools, fitness rooms, squash and tennis courts, discos, restaurants, internet cafes, cinemas, etc., wherein these comprise corresponding card readers that can be used in a vending machine and lobby vending machine, respectively, and in connection with travel terminals, companies, schools and other relevant areas.

14. Method for delivery of product units from a vending machine to a customer, comprising:

a control central; and

a vending machine comprising a control unit that controls the conditions for delivery of the product units from the vending machine, and also registers information about product stock in the vending machine, characterized in that the control central continuously collects information about product stock from the control unit and where the delivery conditions in the vending machine are controlled in that an operator inserts conditions for a customer which are sent to the control unit.

15. Method according to claim 14, characterized in that the control central registers the products that are delivered to each individual customer continuously, and debits the customer automatically, immediately after the purchase.

16. Method according to claim 14-15, characterized in that the mini bar releases the product from the mini bar's stock and delivers chosen product to the customer via a delivery chute if the control of the control unit cancels the blocking.